



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Stones River  
National Battlefield

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## Stones River News Release

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For Immediate Release  
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### **TWO FLAGS OVER TENNESSEE AT STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD**

On December 30, 2006, more than 250 people gathered at Stones River National Battlefield to commemorate the 144<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Stones River and support the efforts of the Tennessee Civil War Preservation Association (TCWPA) to preserve Civil War battlefields and sites in Tennessee.

Prior to the beginning of the one o'clock interpretive program, members of the TCWPA unfurled replicas of the First Confederate National Flag, also known as the Stars and Bars and a Civil War era United States flag. The TCWPA is bringing these flags to battlefields across Tennessee to raise awareness of and funds for Civil War preservation. The flags were carried by volunteers portraying Union and Confederate infantry units during the program that focused on the decisive fighting along the Nashville Pike during the afternoon of December 31, 1862.



The Stars and Stripes flies over the Union position.



Confederate infantry fires in front of the Stars and Bars.

Stones River National Battlefield preserved some of the landscapes that saw action during the Battle of Stones River, one of the deadliest and significant battles of the Civil War. Nearly 81,000 men struggled in the fields and forests near Murfreesboro, Tennessee from December 31, 1862 to January 2, 1863. More than 23,500 soldiers were killed wounded or captured. The Confederate withdrawal from the battlefield gave the Union a critical victory that bolstered northern morale and opened the way for even more decisive campaigns into the heart of the Confederacy.

TCWPA is a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving, protecting, and interpreting Tennessee's Civil War battlefields for the benefit of present and future generations. "Two Flags Over Tennessee:

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The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

Reclaiming our Civil War Heritage" will recognize Tennessee's most important battlefields and emphasize the importance of finding ways to preserve this hallowed ground, where thousands of American soldiers, wearing both blue and gray, gave their lives for the causes in which they fervently believed.



**TCWPA board members and National Park Service representatives pose with the “Two Flags.”**

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